MINIMUM IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY INTO SCHOOL AND DAY CARE

Upon entry or transfer into a child care or school setting, documentary proof shall be provided of adequate immunization with the prescribed number of doses of vaccine indicated below, as appropriate for the child's age. Vaccines must be administered in accordance with the harmonized schedule of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, American Academy of Pediatrics, and American Academy of Family Physicians and must be administered within appropriate spacing and age.

<u>Diphtheria, Tetanus, & Pertussis (DTaP or DTP)</u> - A minimum of 3 doses. A child must have at least one dose of DTaP or DTP vaccine on or after the fourth birthday. If the child has received six doses of DTaP or DTP before the fourth birthday, additional doses are contraindicated. DT (Diphtheria, Tetanus) vaccine is required for children who are medically exempt from the pertussis containing vaccine (DTaP or DTP). Adult Td is required for children 7 years of age and older who do not meet the minimum requirements for tetanus and diphtheria.

<u>Polio Vaccine</u> - A minimum of 3 doses of **all IPV or all OPV** polio vaccine. If a child has had only three doses of polio vaccine, one dose must have been administered on or after the fourth birthday. However, a child who has received four doses of any combination of IPVor OPV polio vaccine before the fourth birthday is adequately immunized and does not need a dose after the fourth birthday.

<u>Haemophilus Influenzae Type b (Hib) Vaccine</u> - This vaccine is required ONLY for children up to 30 months of age. A primary series consists of either 2 or 3 doses (depending on the manufacturer) followed by a booster dose at age 12-15 months. However, the child's current age and not the number of prior doses received govern the number of doses required. Unvaccinated children between the ages of 15 and 30 months are only required to have one dose of vaccine.

<u>Hepatitis B Vaccine</u> - A complete series of 3 doses of hepatitis B vaccine is required for all children born on and after January I, 1994. However, the FDA has approved a 2-dose schedule <u>***ONLY***</u> for adolescents 11-15 years of age AND *ONLY when the Merck Brand* (**RECOMBIVAX HB**) *Adult Formulation Hepatitis B Vaccine* is used. The 2 **RECOMBIVAX HB Adult doses must be separated by a minimum of 4 months**. If the 3-dose hepatitis B vaccine schedule is used, there should be at least 1 month spacing between the 1st and 2nd doses and 4 months spacing between the 1st and 3rd doses.

<u>***NOTE***</u>***: Effective July 1, 2001, all children who have not received a complete series of hepatitis B vaccine will be required to receive such immunization prior to entering the 6th grade***. Students above grade 6 that entered 6th grade on or after July 1, 2001, are also required to have a complete series of hepatitis B vaccine.

<u>Measles, Mumps, & Rubella (MMR) Vaccine</u> - A minimum of 2 measles, 1 mumps, and 1 rubella. (Most children receive 2 doses of each because the vaccine usually administered is the combination vaccine MMR). First dose must be administered at age 12 months (365 days) or older. If first dose is administered before 12 months of age, the dose does not count and must be repeated. Second dose of measles vaccine does not have to be administered until age 4-6 years (usually at entry to kindergarten) but can be administered at any time after the minimum interval between dose 1 and dose 2. The minimum interval is 4 weeks (28 days).

<u>Varicella (Chickenpox) Vaccine</u> - All <u>susceptible</u> children born on and after January 1, 1997, shall be required to have a dose of chickenpox vaccine not earlier than the age of 12 months (365 days).

<u>***NOTE***</u>**:** *The 4-day grace period for administration of vaccines <u>does not</u> apply to MMR vaccine or Varicella vaccine.*

*For further information, please consult The State Board of Health's **Regulations for the Immunization of School Children** or call the Division of Immunization at 1-800-568-1929 (in state only) or 804-864-8055.*